



Essen, May 3, 2023

World's leading trade fair for metal packaging:

Koenig & Bauer MetalPrint wins METPACK Innovation Award 2023 in Gold

Silver for Actega and bronze for Can Man

The winners of the METPACK Innovation Awards have been announced: Koenig & Bauer MetalPrint receives the popular industry award of the world's leading trade fair for metal packaging in gold for the innovation "MetalControl". Other awards go to Actega and Can Man. The METPACK Innovation Award recognizes outstanding new and further developments in the metal packaging industry every three years. A total of 19 exhibitors submitted 31 entries.

Based on several criteria, the independent international jury of experts determined the winners of this year's METPACK Innovation Award. Innovation content, cost savings, as well as quality improvement and sustainability were the decisive factors for the assessment with the help of a points system. The contenders delivered a close neck-and-neck race.

"MetalControl" is the best innovation

In the end, Koenig & Bauer MetalPrint GmbH led the field. The Würzburg/Germany-based world market leader in the field of printing and coating lines, drying systems and exhaust air purification solutions won with a new closed-loop color control system. "MetalControl" scans each sheet and measures the ink density. The results are transmitted digitally to the control panel, evaluated and the ink zones automatically corrected. The award-winning innovation from Koenig & Bauer MetalPrint is a one hundred percent closed-loop color control system within the press that guarantees maximum color stability and consistency, independent of the operator. Manual adjustments are no longer necessary. Complaints, test prints and makeready times are reduced.

"ROTARflow" in second place

Wesel/Germany-based Actega GmbH has launched a new digital solution that monitors the amount of sealant applied to lids by rotating liners and makes



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immediate adjustments as a result. "ROTARflow" detects any deviation from the target value of the dry film weight and automatically changes pressure and needle lift accordingly. Downtimes and manual interventions are eliminated. Production data is also available from any digital device. "ROTARflow" reduces cost, material and time input while increasing quality.

"PowerCUT SuperFLEX" awarded bronze

With the PowerCUT SuperFLEX duplex cutting machine from the Swiss company Can Man, fully automatic format changes are possible in a world record time of 15 minutes. In addition to the enormous time savings, the innovation has another advantage: damage to cutting tools is avoided by eliminating manual operation. The machine also offers maximum flexibility for cutting all formats with a high cutting accuracy.

The 2023 jury

The certificates and trophies were presented to the representatives of the winning companies at a ceremony on the second day of METPACK, May 3. The jury was chaired by Gernot Geldner. Other members of the commission were Hugo S. Trappmann, Blechwarenfabrik Limburg GmbH; Paul McClure, Gilpin; Gianluca Ciccolini, Gruppo ASA; Axel Schulte, Envases; Hein van Jaarsveld, Trivium Packaging; and Alex Fordham, The Metal Packager.